

[Report 1947] / Medical Officer of Health, Hexham R.D.C.

Contributors

Hexham (England). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1947

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/n8g66dxb>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

LIBRARY

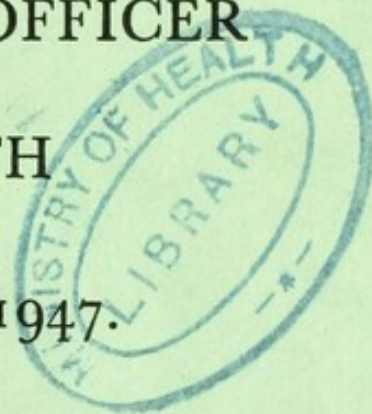
The Rural District Council of Hexham.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

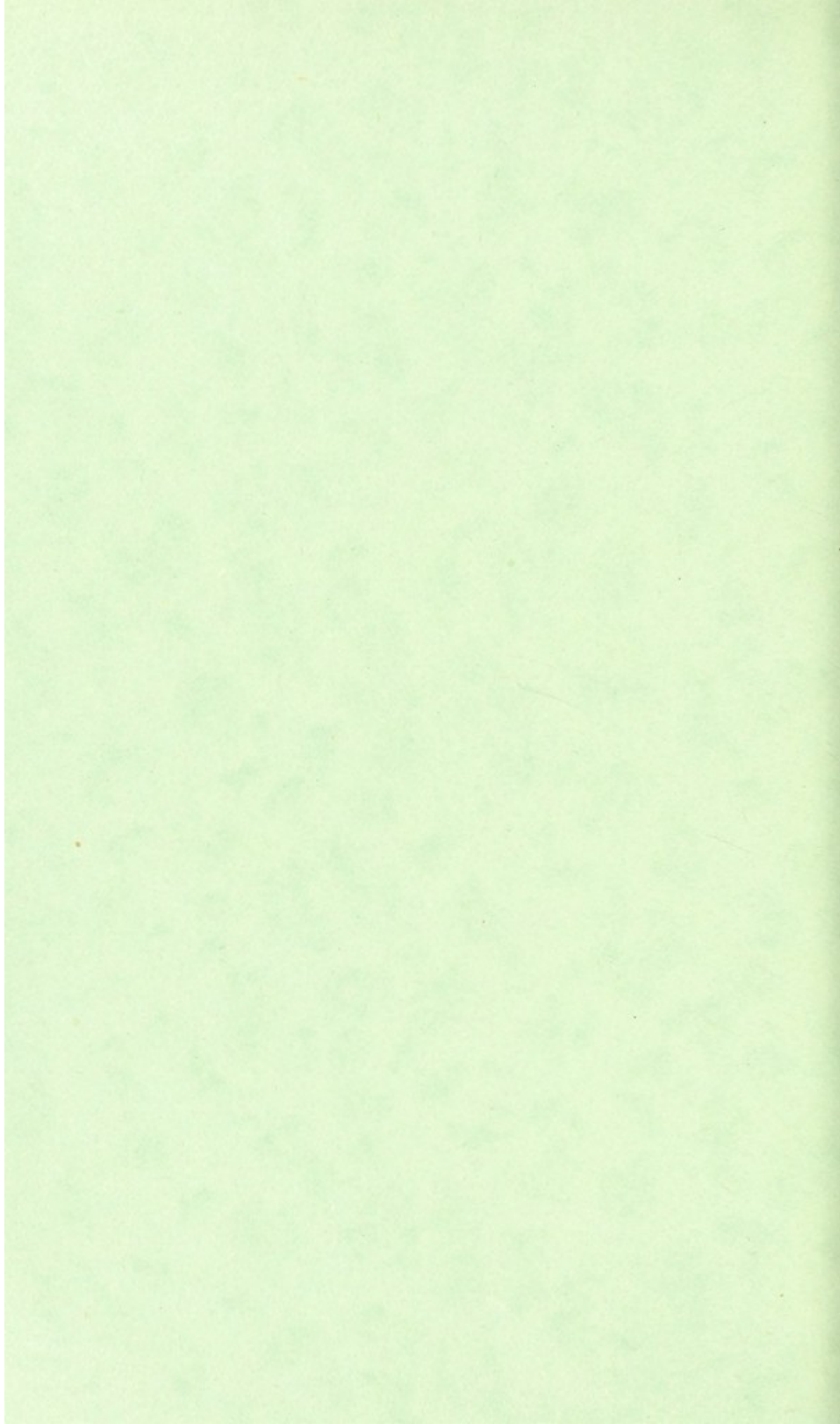
THE MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

For the Year 1947.



J. H. MAUGHAN, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.



The Rural District Council of Hexham.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE MEDICAL OFFICER

OF HEALTH

For the Year 1947.

J. H. MAUGHAN, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29426352>

*To the Chairman and Members of the Hexham Rural District
Council :—*

LADIES and GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1947. In so doing, I beg to remind you that the work of which the report gives an account was carried out during the term of office of the late Dr. C. McCulloch and after his death by Drs. J. Hurley and R. Scott. I can claim neither personal knowledge nor any credit for it.

The birth rate is 17.4 per 1,000 of the estimated population. This rate shows a slight decrease compared with last year and is also below the average of 20.5 for England and Wales.

The death rate is 14.4 per 1,000 of the estimated population and shows a slight increase over the last 4 years. This figure compares with the average of 12.0 for England and Wales.

During the year there were 12 deaths of infants under one year of age, 7 of which were neonatal deaths. The infant mortality rate is thus 34.2 per 1,000 live births and compares with 41.0 per 1,000 live births for England and Wales.

Infectious diseases notified during the year show an increase over last year, *viz.*, 280 cases against 198. Outstanding among them were 208 cases of measles and 8 cases of acute poliomyelitis with 1 death.

There were 16 cases of tuberculosis notified during the year, making an increase of 1 case compared with last year.

Water supplies are still insufficient to meet the needs of all areas. Details of houses supplied and of samples taken are given in the report.

Sewage disposal continued as in previous years.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. H. MAUGHAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	196,030
Estimated Population, 1947	...	...	...	...	...	20,020

Vital Statistics.

BIRTHS.

Live Births—		Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	...	175	162	337
Illegitimate	...	6	7	13
Still Births—				
Legitimate	...	7	6	13
Illegitimate	...	1	—	1
Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated population...	...			17.4
Total (Live and Still) Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated population	...	...	...	18.1

DEATHS.

Deaths from puerperal causes :—

Puer. and post-abortion. Sepsis	...	...	...	Nil
Other maternal causes	...	...	...	1
Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still) Births	...			2.74

Death Rates of infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	34.2
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births				29.6
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	153.0

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	44
„ „ Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	Nil
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	Nil
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...			1

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (all causes and all ages)	...	...	...	...	14.4
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	------

The following Table classifies deaths according to their age groups in each Sub-District, and also as to their certification :—

AGE GROUP	ALLENDALE				BYWELL				CHOLLERTON				HEXHAM				TOTALS	
	Cert-ified		Un-Cert-ified		Cert-ified		Un-Cert-ified		Cert-ified		Un-Cert-ified		Cert-ified		Un-Cert-ified			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-1	—	2	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	3	—	—	5	7
1-2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
2-5	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
5-15	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
15-25	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
25-45	2	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	3	—	—	—	1	5	—	—	8	6
45-65	6	11	1	2	6	9	1	—	5	5	—	1	9	6	—	—	28	34
Over 65	21	15	1	2	31	30	4	2	20	17	—	—	20	29	1	—	98	95
	31	28	2	4	43	41	6	2	30	24	—	1	33	43	1	—	146	143
	TOTAL																289	

Infant Mortality during Year ending December 31st, 1947.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-3 months.	3-6 months.	6-9 months.	9-12 months.	Total deaths under 1 year.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Smallpox - - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles - - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pul. Tuberculosis -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculous Meningitis -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abdominal Tuberculosis -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis - - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia (all forms) -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa - - -	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Congenital Malformations -	...	1	...	1	2	...	1	...	...	3
Premature Birth - -	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Marasmus - - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atelectasis - - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Injury at Birth - -	3	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	3
Appendicitis - - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Other causes - - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2
All causes { Certified.	4	2	...	1	7	1	2	1	1	12
{ Uncertified.	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...
GRAND TOTALS -	4	2	...	1	7	1	2	1	1	12

BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1947.

	Rate per 1,000 total Population		Annual Death-rate per 1,000 Population								Rate per 1,000 Live Births	
	Live Births	Still Births	All Causes	Typhoid & Paratyphoid	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Diarrhoea & Enteritis (under 2 years)	Total Deaths under one year
England and Wales ...	20.5	0.50	12.0	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.09	5.8	41
126 County Boroughs & Great Towns, including London ...	23.3	0.62	13.0	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.03	0.01	0.09	8.0	47
148 Smaller Towns (estimated Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1931)	22.2	0.54	11.9	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.08	3.7	36
London Adm. County	22.7	0.49	12.8	0.00	—	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.08	4.8	37
Hexham R.D. ...	17.4	0.69	14.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.04	2.8	34

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED (other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1947

Notifiable Disease.	Cases Notified in Whole District.													Total Cases notified in each Sub-District			
	At all Ages	Un-der 1											Allendale	Bywell	Chollerton	Hexham	
			1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—25	25—35	35—45					45—65
Scarlet Fever	4	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	
Whooping Cough	33	3	3	2	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18	1	5	9	
Diphtheria	6	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Measles	208	3	6	21	114	25	10	4	2	5	1	1	27	84	33	64	
Pneumonias	8	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	3	
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Acute Poliomyelitis	8	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	2	3	2	1	
Dysentery	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Puerperal Pyrexia	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Chicken Pox	3	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	
TOTALS	280	7	10	21	139	28	16	7	15	7	4	2	48	95	49	88	

280

INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1942-1947.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Scarlet Fever	13	23	29	36	21	4
Whooping Cough	1	24	28	18	45	33
Diphtheria	7	4	3	8	6	6
Measles	65	114	32	23	81	208
Pneumonias	11	20	5	8	15	8
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	3	1	—	—	1	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	3	8
Dysentery	12	7	—	5	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	8	10	15	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	13	18	17	8	9	9
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	3	6	5	5	2	—
Chicken Pox	—	—	—	—	—	3

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1947.

Age periods	New Cases				Nett Deaths in Hexham Rural District			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulm.		Pulmonary		Non Pulm.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 ...	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
5—15 ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25 ...	1	1	—	1	—	—	1	1
25—35 ...	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
35—45 ...	3	—	—	1	2	2	—	—
45—55 ...	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55—65 ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 & over	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	9	3	1	3	5	2	2	1

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION, 1947.

Number of Children who completed a full course of Primary Immunisation in the Hexham Rural District during year 1947.		
Age at date of Final Injection.		TOTAL
Under 5	5 to 14	
189	2	191

IMMUNISATION IN RELATION TO CHILD POPULATION.

	Number of Children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1947.						
	Under 1 1947	1 1946	2 1945	3 1944	4 1943	5 to 9 1938-42	10 to 14 1933-37
Age at 31/12/47 Born in Year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Number immunised ...	7	139	224	318	349	1087	757
Estimated mid-year child population, 1947	Children under five. 1,408						Children 5-14 2,515
Percentage immun- ised at 31st Dec., 1947	73.6						73.3

Total
Under 15

2881

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTORS

FOR THE

Year ended 31st December, 1947,

— BY —

R. C. HESLOP, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Acomb.

Following the failure of the scheme to supply this area from a borehole near New Rift Farm, a test pumping of the existing borehole at Silver Hill was made, but the yield could not be increased sufficiently to be of any real value.

Other sources of supply including water from the Mines and all the local springs were examined but none was found to be suitable.

Hexhamshire, Slaley and Corbridge.

The preparation of a scheme to augment the supplies in these areas was begun.

It was found that there would be a surplus after supplying the needs of the Hexhamshire, Slaley and Corbridge areas, and the Council decided to use part of the existing Corbridge supply to feed Acomb, Sandhoe, Oakwood and Anick.

Old Town, Allendale.

A scheme to extend the mains to supply this area is being prepared.

SUMMARY OF WATER SAMPLES TAKEN.

SUPPLY.		No. of Samples	Number Satisfactory	Number Unsatis- factory
Private Supplies—				
Bacteriological	...	17	15	2
Chemical	...	2	2	—
Council's Supplies—				
Bacteriological	...	15	12	3
Chemical	...	6	6	—
		—	—	—
		40	35	5
Additional samples taken in connection with Hexham- shire water scheme—				
Bacteriological	...	10	9	1
Chemical	...	1	1	—
		—	—	—
		51	45	6
		—	—	—

Private Supplies.

One of the private bacteriological samples was unsatisfactory when first taken but the source of the spring was found and safeguarded, and after work was completed the subsequent sample proved satisfactory.

The other private supply from which an unsatisfactory bacteriological sample was taken was found to be intermittently polluted and mains water is now being used for drinking purposes.

Council's Supplies.

The three unsatisfactory samples were taken from the same spring, and an investigation is being made.

Additional Supplies.

The unsatisfactory sample taken from a spring to be used in the proposed Hexhamshire Water Scheme was due to faecal contamination where the spring runs over open ground. A further sample taken at the source was found to be satisfactory.

WATER SUPPLY.

Houses and Populations supplied from Council Mains.

PARISH	Direct to Houses		By means of Standpipes		TOTALS	
	Houses	Population	Houses	Population	Houses	Population
Acomb ...	156	512	46	148	202	660
Allendale ...	324	952	70	205	394	1,157
Bingfield...	4	12	—	—	4	12
Broomhaugh ...	60	198	—	—	60	198
Chollerton ...	54	219	34	154	88	373
Corbridge ...	623	1,743	—	—	623	1,743
Dilston ...	9	35	—	—	9	35
Haydon ...	384	1,224	35	114	419	1,338
Hedley ...	31	178	11	65	42	243
Humshaugh ...	88	242	14	41	102	283
Newbrough ...	23	95	26	105	49	200
Slaley ...	110	516	—	—	110	516
Hexham Low Gr.	45	154	—	—	45	154
Wall ...	46	130	21	63	67	193
Whittington ...	20	68	22	74	42	142
TOTALS ...	1,977	6,278	279	969	2,256	7,247

Houses and Population supplied by the
Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co.

	DIRECT TO HOUSES	
	Houses	Population
Broomley ...	525	1,575
Horsley ...	99	318
Ovingham ...	111	378
Ovington ...	132	460
Whittle ...	5	22
Wylam ...	410	1,273
TOTALS...	1,282	4,026

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS.

Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,016
Council Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	368
Testing of Drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	218
Housing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	928
Food Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	78
Sewers and Sewage Works			...	...	...	...	...	188
Removal of House Refuse	...		...	...	...	...	...	169
Nuisarces	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	145
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	57
Milk and Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	560
Infectious Diseases			...	...	...	...	...	18
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	65
Licensing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	250
Building Inspection			...	...	...	...	...	139
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	57
Surveying and Levelling			...	...	...	...	...	35
Moveable Dwellings	...		...	...	...	...	...	47
Milk Samples	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Water Samples	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	145
								4,561

FOOD INSPECTION.

UN SOUND FOOD		Surrendered	Seized	Legal Pro- ceedings
Beef (Imported)	stones	73	—	—
Mutton do. ...	„	4	—	—
Pork ...	„	7	—	—
Fish ...	lbs.	168	—	—
Canned Goods	tins	501	—	—
Bacon ...	lbs.	64	—	—
Butter ...	„	18½	—	—
Other Foods ...	„	187	—	—

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

Section 6 (1) and (4).

Number of Cowkeepers (registered) in district	...	...	...	684
Approximate number of cows kept	...	...	...	10,000

HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR 1947.

					With State Assistance	Unaided	TOTAL
(a)	By Local Authority	...	...	...	34	—	34
	Humshaugh	...	...	6			
	Gunnerton	...	...	6			
	Corbridge	...	...	6			
	Fourstones	...	...	8			
	Haydon Bridge	...	...	8			
(b)	By Other Bodies or persons	...	...	...	—	4	4

HOUSES UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT 31st DECEMBER, 1947.

					With State Assistance	Unaided	TOTAL
(a)	By Local Authority	...	...	...	98	—	98
	Fourstones	...	...	8			
	Acomb	...	...	16			
	Corbridge	...	...	12			
	Wylam	...	...	24			
	Ovingham	...	...	10			
	Horsley	...	...	4			
	Allendale	...	...	12			
	Slaley	...	...	12			
(b)	By Other Bodies or persons	...	...	...	—	9	9

**SUMMARY OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED DURING
THE YEAR.**

Privies converted to water-closets	...	...	...	...	...	55
Additional water-closets provided	...	...	...	...	...	30
Bathrooms provided	...	...	...	...	...	41
Baths installed	...	...	...	...	...	44
Lavatory basins provided	...	...	...	...	...	31
Sinks provided	...	...	...	...	...	44
Hot water systems installed	...	...	...	...	...	50
New drainage systems provided	...	...	...	...	...	45
Existing drainage re-constructed	...	...	...	...	...	24
Septic tanks and filters provided	...	...	...	...	...	13
New water supplies provided	...	...	...	...	...	12
Water laid into houses	...	...	...	...	...	54
Water-closets repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	8
Choked drains cleared	...	...	...	...	...	4
Foodstores provided	...	...	...	...	...	10
Sculleries provided	...	...	...	...	...	12
Washing accommodation provided	...	...	...	...	...	13
Yards re-paved	...	...	...	...	...	5
Fuel stores provided	...	...	...	...	...	15
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	136
Walls repointed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	34
Gutters and fallpipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	62
Chimneys repaired	...	...	...	...	...	29
New windows provided	...	...	...	...	...	52
Ceilings renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	73
Walls replastered	...	...	...	...	...	54
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	68
Cooking ranges and fireplaces renewed	...	...	...	...	...	144

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

57 inspections have been made and 4 defects remedied.
No statutory notices were served.

